



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
on the Draft Removal Action Workplan
for
FORMER MERCURY DRY CLEANERS SITE**

The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announces the availability of the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for public review and comment from March 25, 2002 through April 23, 2002 for the Former Mercury Dry Cleaners Site. The Site is located at the Pinole Valley Shopping Center, at 2714 Pinole Valley Road Pinole, Contra Costa County, California 94564.

Mercury Dry Cleaners conducted its dry cleaning operations at the Site from 1959 to 1993. The dry-cleaning operation ceased in 1993 and the facility has been vacant since then. Site investigations found soil and groundwater contamination in a parking area behind the facility where solvent filters were alleged to have been dumped. Contaminants detected include perchloroethene (PCE) and its break down chemicals. PCE is a colorless liquid typically used as dry cleaning and degreasing solvents. In its present state, the site does not pose a health risk to site occupants and nearby residents since the Site is covered with a building and pavement. However, cleanup actions are necessary to remove the source of and to address groundwater contamination. The proposed removal actions are described in the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) which proposes excavation and offsite disposal of contaminated soils and in place treatment of groundwater by enhancing the biodegradation of contaminants.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has evaluated the proposed Site cleanup plan to determine if there will be any potential adverse environmental impacts. DTSC found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. DTSC has prepared a Notice of Exemption in compliance with CEQA for the project.

The public is invited to comment on the draft RAW at any time during the 30-day public comment period. Written comments should be postmarked no later than April 18, 2002 and should be mailed to Remedios Sunga, Project Manager at the DTSC address below. Questions about this project can be directed to either Remedios Sunga at (510) 540-3840, rsunga@dtsc.ca.gov, or Rachelle Maricq, DTSC Public Participation Coordinator at (510) 540-3910, rmaricq@dtsc.ca.gov. For media questions, please call Angela Blanchette, DTSC Public Information Officer at (510) 540-3732, rblanchette@dtsc.ca.gov.

You can review the draft RAW along with other site-related documents at the following locations.

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Berkeley Office
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710
By appointment: call (510) 540-3800

Pinole Public Library
2935 Pinole Valley Road
Pinole, California
(510) 758-2741
During regular Library Hours

The full administrative record is available at the above DTSC office.